

IN*

The background of the cover is a black and white abstract painting. It features a large, central face with a prominent, stylized eye that has concentric circles for the iris and pupil. The mouth is wide open, showing a row of sharp, pointed teeth. The overall style is expressive and somewhat chaotic, with various lines and shapes suggesting a complex, perhaps subconscious, image.

FREE
LIKE WE ALL
SHOULD BE

A COLLECTIVE
VIEW OF
MODERN SOCIETY

ISSUE 6

APRIL 2020

.IN*

WELCOME TO THE SIXTH MOMENTOUS ISSUE OF .IN*! THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT RESPONSE TO THE LAST ONE. WE HOPE YOU FIND THIS EDITION JUST AS ENTERTAINING AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING.

DUE TO THE CURRENT CORONAVIRUS FEVER, THIS ISSUE IS BEING DISTRIBUTED AS A PDF RIGHT AWAY. WE'RE GOING TO DO OUR USUAL GUERILLA MARKETING AND SPAM THE WORLD WITH IT ... DIGITALLY THIS TIME.

IN THIS DIFFICULT TIME, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES. CHECK OUT OUR ADVERTISERS' WEBSITES AND SOCIAL MEDIA AND BUY WHAT YOU CAN. THEY HAVE BEEN GOOD TO US. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE STILL THERE WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER.

.IN* SINCERELY HOPES THAT YOU ARE ALL WELL AND HOLDING UP MENTALLY AS WELL AS PHYSICALLY DURING THIS STAY-AT-HOME/SOCIAL-DISTANCING/ LOCK-DOWN/MARTIAL LAW/WHATEVER THIS TURNS INTO. KNOW THAT IT'S FOR THE BEST, AND THE SOONER AND MORE COMPLETELY WE SEPARATE OURSELVES, THE SOONER THIS WILL BE OVER. DO ALL YOU CAN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THE UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND UTILITIES PAYMENTS BREAKS.

ON A LIGHTER NOTE ...

SEE PAGE 17 FOR OUR AWESOME T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY!

COVER ART:

THIS ISSUE'S COVER ART IS BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SHANIA TOOMER WHO PARTICIPATES IN SHANE MANIER'S STUDENT ART PROGRAM WHICH HELPS PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR TEEN ARTISTS. TOOMER'S PAINTING IS TITLED "BASQUIAT SERIES: SPEAK OUT." PURCHASE ART FROM THE STUDENT ART PROGRAM AT SHANEMANIER.COM/STUDENT-ART-PROGRAM



YOU CAN FIND .IN* ON FACEBOOK @INXCOMIC
FOLLOW US THERE FOR OUR ORIGINAL MISSION STATEMENT,
DISTRIBUTION LOCATIONS AND BACK ISSUES.



AND ON INSTAGRAM @INXCOMIC
FOLLOW US THERE FOR PHOTOS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND AN OCCASIONAL CONTEST.

SEND YOUR COMMENTS, STORIES AND ART SUBMISSIONS TO .IN* AT
INXCOMIC@GMAIL.COM

The
COMeDY
ZONE



avidxchange

music factory

980-321-4702 / cltcomedyzone.com

The COMeDY ZONE

The
COMeDY
ZONE
STREAMING



Give Them A Hand

Watch It Live



facebook
LIVESTREAM

Facebook.com/ComedyZoneCLT



gofundme

900 NC Music Factory Blvd / 980-321-4702 / www.cltcomedyzone.com



@comedyzoneclt / www.facebook.com/comedyzoneclt

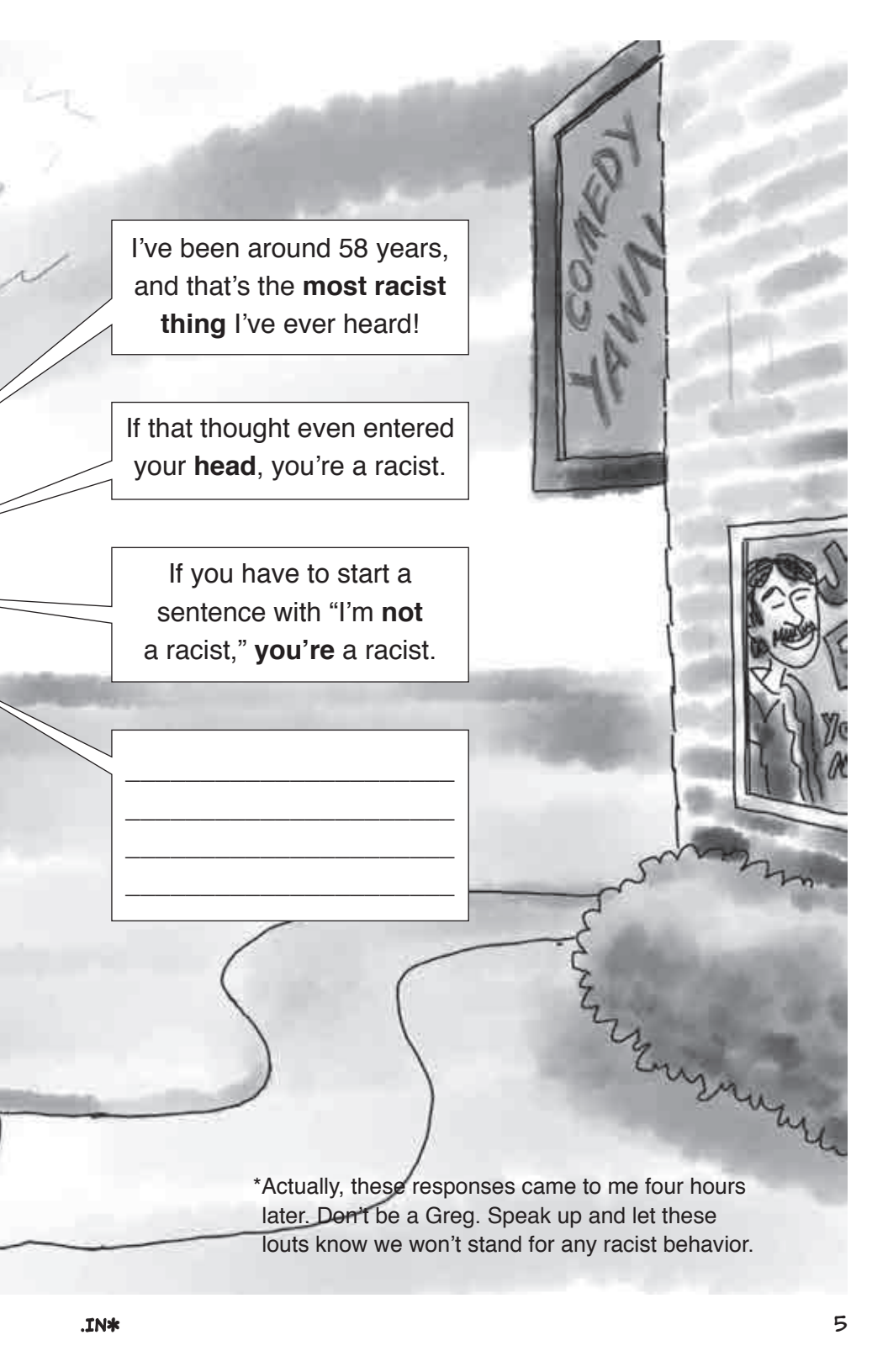


A true encounter

by Greg Russell

What is it like in there?
I'm not a racist, but are
there **blacks** or **whites** ...?





I've been around 58 years,
and that's the **most racist**
thing I've ever heard!

If that thought even entered
your **head**, you're a racist.

If you have to start a
sentence with "I'm **not**
a racist," **you're** a racist.

*Actually, these responses came to me four hours later. Don't be a Greg. Speak up and let these louts know we won't stand for any racist behavior.

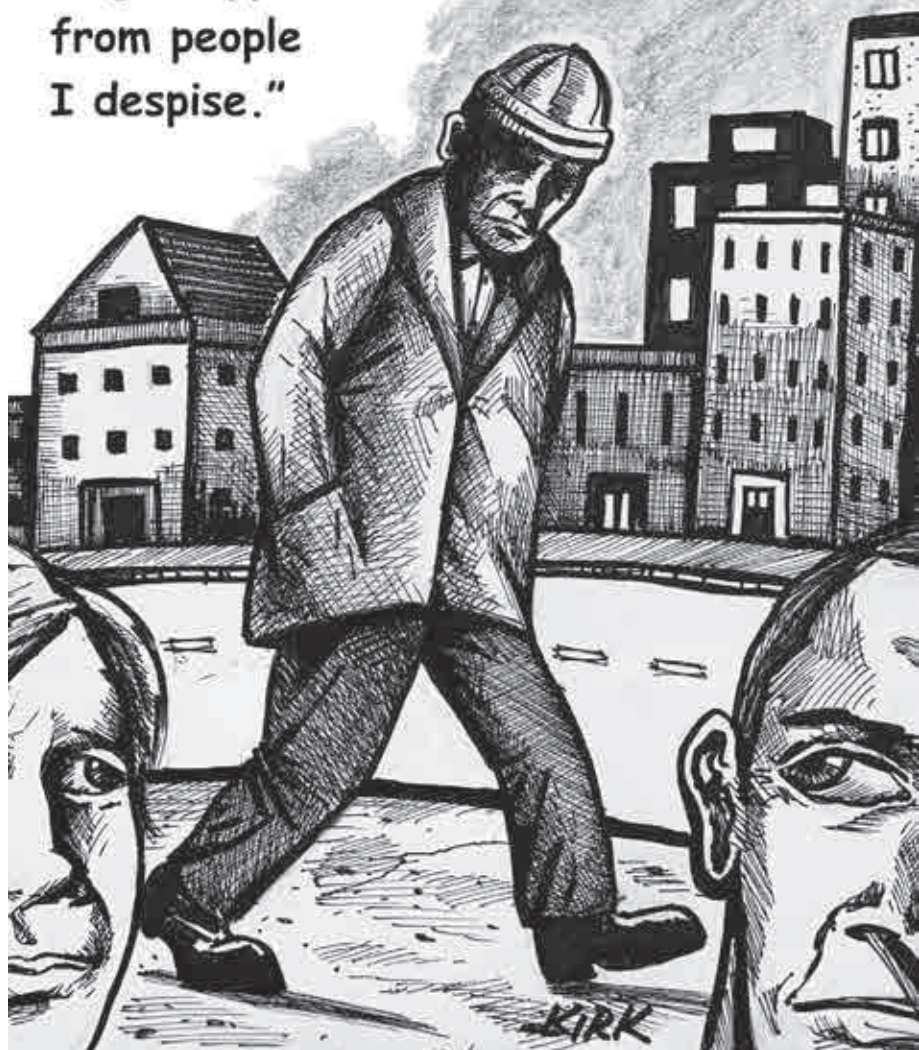
"Revert to normal?

Naw...

I like it on the fringes.

I'd rather die smiling
than trying and lying
to get approval
from people
I despise."

written by Randy Crawford
art by Jerry Kirk



PURGATORY

WWW.SINGLECELL.US



"AN ALTERNATIVE FETISH-THEMED,
PERFORMANCE ART, AND EDM EVENT,
FEATURING INTERACTIVE CONSENSUAL
BDSM DEMONSTRATIONS IN A SAFE AND
SANE ENVIRONMENT."

Nu Star Coffee

I am the greatest barista ever, making each customer happy beyond belief whilst satiating their desire for non-boredom using the power of legal, liquid speed.

Say! Is that chick rolling her fucking eyes at me? Stuck up bitch ... I should cut your eyes out and eat your face off ...

"Yes sir, will that be all for you today?"



by Michael Greeley

S.O.S.

Save Our Species

Honestly, people, we hold the power.
Why are we acting as if this pandemic
is out of our control???

- ♥ What if we stop?
- ♥ What if we stop listening to politicians
and do what is best for our species?
- ♥ What if we stop chasing wealth
and do what is best for our species?
- ♥ What if we stop being scared of
losing material wealth and do
what is best for our species?
- ♥ What if we stop being afraid of
what might be and work with what is
and do what is best for our species?
- ♥ What if we stop seeing differences
and see us as one species?
- ♥ What if we stop all the craziness
and realize that, as a species,
we all need and depend on each other
and work to save our species?
- ♥ What if we stop our greed and selfish
thoughts and work toward saving
our species?
- ♥ What if we stop being the media's sheep
and know that we are intelligent enough
to make the best decision for our species?
- ♥ What if we dig deep and manifest
our ultimate power, as a whole,
to save our species?

If you think about it, in this race,
if you are the winner, there will be
no one around to crown you the victor.

by Harriet Russell
art Greg Russell



PINKY'S

WESTSIDE GRILL

Featured on
"Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives"



**STAY POSITIVE, STAY HEALTHY,
AND WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!**



LOW BROW EATS & DRINKS FOR VEGANS to CARNIVORES

1600 W. MOREHEAD @ FREEDOM DR · CHARLOTTE NC · 704.332.0402

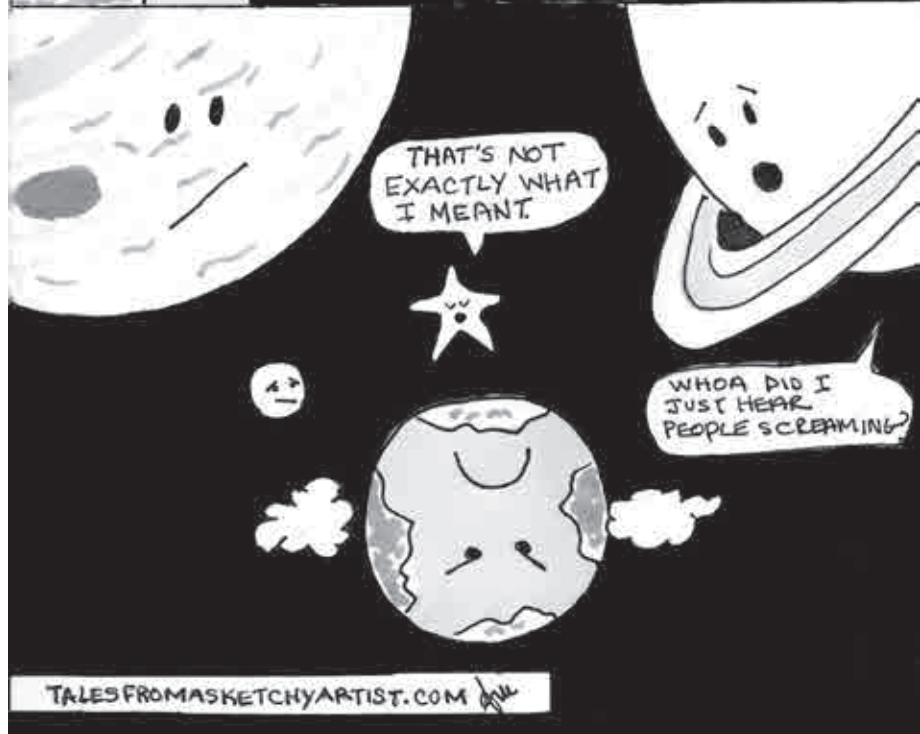
9818 GILEAD ROAD SUITE B-101 · HUNTERSVILLE NC · 704.727.0142

PINKYSWESTSIDEGRILL.COM

Global Pandemic

by Ani Todd





TALESFROMASKETCHYARTIST.COM 

Star Dork



by Henry Eudy

WINE FOOD COMICS

@ Assorted Table Wine Shoppe

\$32

INCLUDING TAX & FEES

Unlimited Samples

20+ WINES & BEERS & SNACKS

Meet the Artist

PURCHASE ART

Tickets

[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/DRINKATWS](https://linktr.ee/drinkatws)



WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2020
6:30-9:30PM



LIFE DURING CORONA

BY JERRY KIRK

'Love in the time of Corona'



* "The bastards
cleaned out
the veggie aisle!!
Now I have
nothing to
put away
for the
week!

* Overheard in
the grocery store

'Social Distancing'



WIN A FREE

.IN*

T-SHIRT!

WIN ONE OF TWO WAYS ...



SHARE THIS T-SHIRT POST
FROM THE .IN* FACEBOOK PAGE:
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/INXCOMIC

THE MOST SHARES BETWEEN
APRIL 1, 2020 AND
APRIL 30, 2020 WINS!

4 WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED!



TAG YOUR FRIENDS ON
THE T-SHIRT POST FROM
THE .IN* INSTAGRAM PAGE:
WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/INXCOMIC

THE MOST TAGS BETWEEN
APRIL 1, 2020 AND
APRIL 30, 2020 WINS!

4 WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED!



SIZES AVAILABLE: S, M, L, XL
COLOR: OFF-WHITE

Cartoons by *Karla Holland*



Based on an actual

moment in

Frida Kahlo's life.





He's got
"The virus"

W/ H/ L/ 20



@thegoronttransplant

PRE-COVID COMICS



* I'VE SINCE BEEN INFORMED THAT MUTTLEY WAS THE DOG OF DIRK DASTARDLY. SORRY, NERDS. I FAILED YOU.
—H.E.

by Henry Eudy

IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR EPIPHANIES

♪ THAT'S GREAT IT STARTS WITH AN
EARTHQUAKE, BIRDS AND SNAKES
AND AEROPLANES ♪



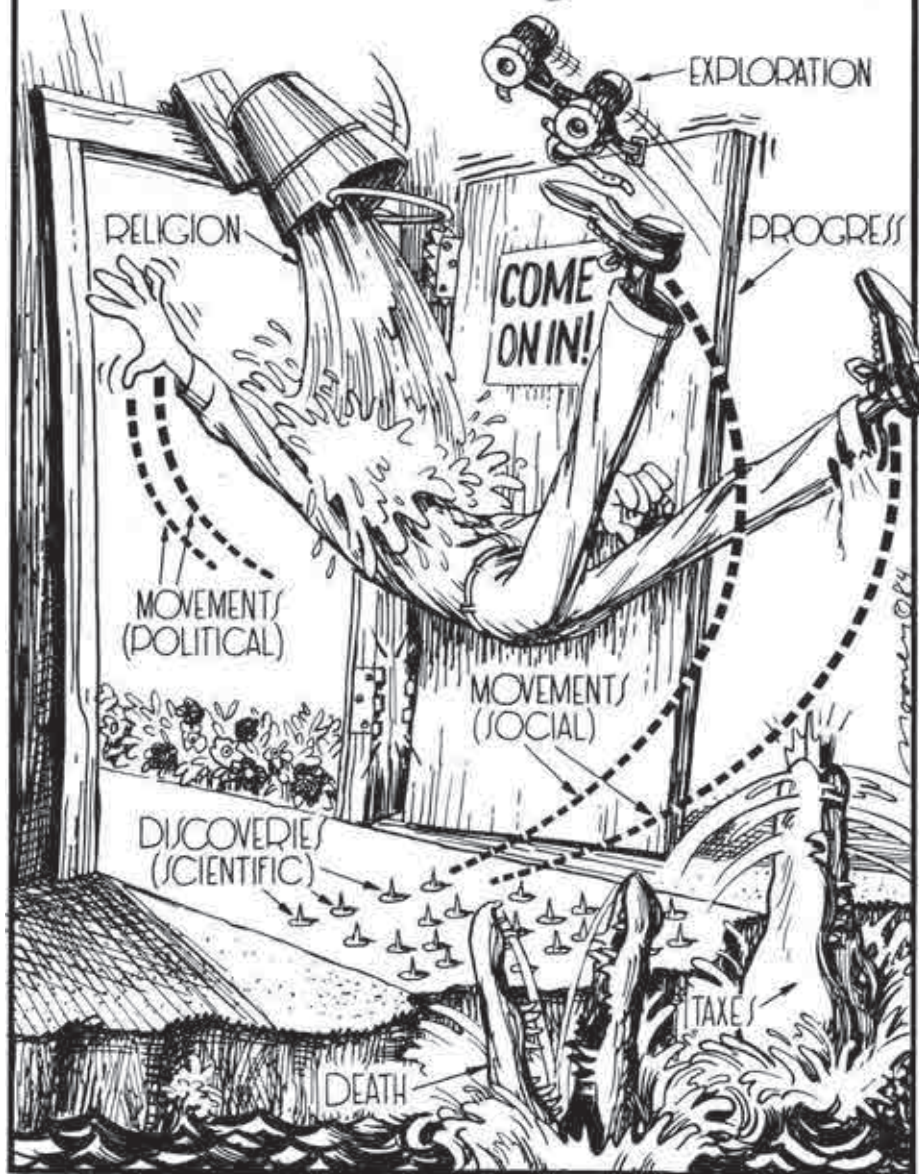
A TOURNAMENT, A TOURNAMENT,
A TOURNAMENT OF LIES!

OH GOD...
THIS IS
REAL
NOW.



by Henry Eudy

A SCHOLARLY AND REASONED OVERVIEW OF
How History Works



BREAKFAST BURRITO WINES WESLEY HEIGHTS
 LOCAL COFFEE ABL TRIVIA DJs RAW RHINO
 LIVE MUSIC ROTATING TAPS THE BIG SKINNY
 CHICKEN TORTA CATERING LUNCH CHAUD LEGUMES
 UPTOWN SANDWICHES OMELETES DAILY SPECIALS
 RONDELEZ VEGETARIAN CRAFT BEER MIXERS
 LE MONDE RHINO MARKET & DELI SOUP
 PROVISIONS MOREHEAD ST • S CHURCH ST OF
 ToFu You N DAVIDSON ST • RHINOMARKET.COM THE DAY
 FANCY CRACKERS CHEESES HOT SICILIAN NODA SALADS



'toons by
STEVE SMITH



Living
in my
car
comics



Issue 1

They're Daring!

They're Dauntless!

They're Recently Divorced!

They're

EX-MEN™

\$3.99

THIS ISSUE - Deadbeat Dad vs.

The

LITIGATOR!

First,
I'll take half
of your salary..

Then,
I'll take half of
your secret lair!
Finally, I'll destroy
you and your
sidekicks!

They're not
sidekicks.
I have the kids
this weekend.

SMITH '20

HYMNS OF PLAGUE

...FALL...

Death. Suicide.
Anger. Hatred.

...SO SHALL
WE FALL...

A musical subgenre filled with
coldness, emptiness, and loathing.

INTO THE
NIHIL?

THE NOTHINGNESS
THAT WE
FEEL...

IN THE
ARMS
OF THE
PALE...

THE
SHADOW
OF OUR
FRAIL
COMPANION...

...WHO
WALKS
WITH US...

There aren't many things that give me comfort in this world.
For some reason, extreme music is one of them.

I got my first extreme music record when I was fifteen years old. My foster family was incredibly religious, and my musical choices were limited--on the radio was either Classic 99, or Joy FM. I avoided the latter like the plague.

I SWEAR
I SLIPPED
RIGHT THROUGH
THE CRACKS
IN THE FLOOR



BUT IT'S
SO EASY
WHEN YOU'RE
PULLIN' ME
UNDER

Every year, for Christmas, they would pick up a praise and worship CD from the christian bookstore. I don't think they ever bothered figuring out what each record was, and somehow, Underoath's "Define The Great Line" snuck past them.

NOW I
CAN SEE
THINGS
FROM THE
OUTSIDE



AND I WILL
SIT HERE
WITH NO
PLACE
IN MIND

That oversight changed my life forever. I quickly went from the dissonant, post-hardcore sounds of Tooth And Nail Records to the punishing drum rhythms of The Berzerker and the chaotic synths of Genghis Tron, and never looked back.

I
CAN'T
ESCAPE



FROM
THIS
PLACE

I sat alone in my room, doodled my flowers, and drowned myself in dissonant riffs--to be honest, were it not for comix and music, I probably would have taken my life.

Extreme music got me through the worst periods of my life, and was there during the few good ones as well. I listened to Fuck The Facts with my now ex-wife when we were homeless.

When I worked in a warehouse while trying to get off the streets, I would blast The Dillinger Escape Plan as I raced through the packing areas, fourteen hours into my sixteen hour shifts.

HAVE YOU TOUCHED THE CENTER



OF YOUR OWN SORROW

EVENTUALLY...
THE JOKES
AREN'T FREE



NOTHING'S EVER FUNNY

I blasted Pantera and Metallica while living in my car, and I would listen to Woods Of Ypres during my workouts when my dysphoria was at its worst when I first came out.

I don't know why I didn't gravitate to nicer things, more pleasant sounds, kinder lyrics-- perhaps it was because the world seemed angry at me, and I was angry at it in return.

BUT NO MONUMENT FOR ME...



..PLEASE, I AM NOT ONE OF THEM..

I DIDN'T NEED IT IN LIFE...

WON'T NEED IT IN DEATH...

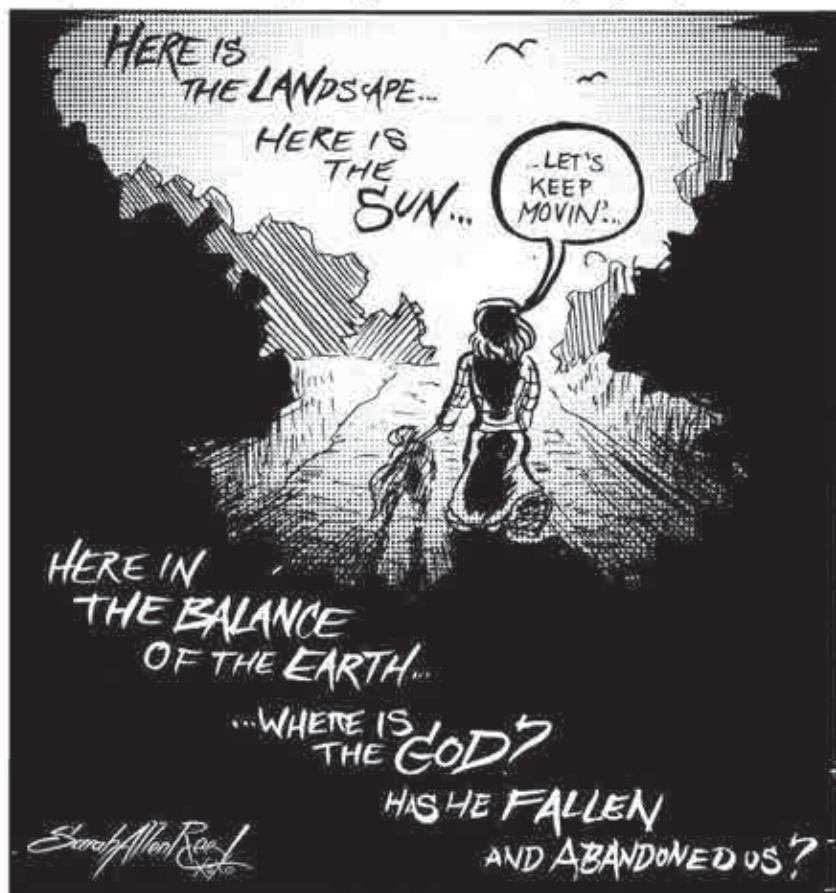


I've focused my energy a bit better as I've gotten older--I'm more focused, more intense, less violent, less angry, more intent on helping and less intent on destroying--but the blast beats still calm me, the harsh FM synths and distortion still push me through.

One would think that, now that I'm older, I would gravitate towards gentler sounds, kinder tones, less intense sonic experiences. There are occasions where I do, but they aren't often. There's still a type of catharsis to be found in the desolation of a wall of harsh noise, a welcoming familiarity in the maelstrom of fuzz pedals and HM-2s.



And besides...the world as we know it is dying around us. We live in a time of distortion, violence, and plague, and the way things used to be is dying away.



Its funeral needs a hymn.

.IN* ISSUE #6 CONTRIBUTORS



P. 4 A TRUE ENCOUNTER

GREG RUSSELL WRITER/ARTIST

RUSSELL IS A TRUE CHARLATAN, BORN AND RAISED IN CHARLOTTE. HE IS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER, ILLUSTRATOR, PHOTOGRAPHER, WEB DESIGNER, WRITER AND EDITOR, BUT HIS FAVORITE THING TO DO IS DRAW COMICS. SEE EXAMPLES OF HIS WORK AT GREGRUSSELL.US



P. 6 ON THE FRINGES

RANDY CRAWFORD WRITER

ORIGINALLY FROM MERIDIAN, MS, CRAWFORD HAS LIVED IN CHARLOTTE SINCE 1993. HE ENJOYS WRITING AND DOING CONCEPTUAL ART.



JERRY KIRK ARTIST

KIRK IS AN AWARD-WINNING ARTIST LOCATED IN CHARLOTTE. HIS WORK IS IN PRIVATE COLLECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. HE IS ALSO ONE OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF THE HISTORIC N. DAVIDSON ST. ART DISTRICT KNOWN AS "NODA." FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SEE MORE ART, VISIT THE OFFICIAL SITE: WWW.JERRYKIRK.COM



P. 8 NU STAR COFFEE

MICHAEL GREELEY WRITER/ARTIST

GREELEY IS A PREDOMINANTLY SELF-TAUGHT ARTIST FROM NEW JERSEY WHO'S SHOWN HIS WORK IN GALLERIES THROUGHOUT NYC, JERSEY CITY AND CHARLOTTE. ART WAS ORIGINALLY A PSYCHOLOGICAL RELEASE WHILE WORKING AS A COUNSELOR WITH SCHIZOPHRENIC AND DEVELOPMENTALLY/BEHAVIORALLY DISABLED POPULATIONS -- BUT IT HAS SINCE EVOLVED INTO A FULL-FLEDGED PASSION. TO SEE MORE OF HIS WORK, CHECK OUT HIS FACEBOOK PAGE (WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PROFILE.PHP?ID=100011407223687) OR CONTACT HIM AT GREELEYM1117@GMAIL.COM.



P. 10 S.O.S. (SAVE OUR SPECIES)

RAHEKU WRITER

RAHEKU IS A CREATOR OF MANY TALENTS INCLUDING POETRY. SHE IS ORIGINALLY FROM LIBERIA AND COMES TO CHARLOTTE VIA LONG ISLAND AND PHILADELPHIA.

GREG RUSSELL WRITER/ARTIST



P. 12 GLOBAL PANDEMIC

ANI TODD WRITER/ARTIST

CHARLOTTE ARTIST TODD SPECIALIZES IN 2-DIMENSIONAL WORKS IN PEN, PENCIL, OIL AND CHALK PASTEL. A STORYTELLER BY NATURE, SHE WROTE AND ILLUSTRATED HER OWN COMICS STARTING IN ELEMENTARY THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL. HER WEBCOMIC "TALES FROM A SKETCHY ARTIST," CREATED IN 2018, ILLUSTRATES THE HUMOROUS ENCOUNTERS FOUND IN HER DAILY LIFE'S JOURNEY. SEE MORE OF HER ART AT TALESFROMASKETCHYARTIST.COM



P. 14 **STAR DORK**

HENRY EUDY WRITER/ARTIST

ACCORDING TO HIS INSTAGRAM PROFILE, EUDY IS A WIZARD. A TRUE STAR. YOU CAN FIND SAID INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT AT HENRY_EUDY.

P. 16 **LIFE DURING CORONA**

JERRY KIRK WRITER/ARTIST



P. 18 **CARTOONS BY KARLA HOLLAND**

KARLA HOLLAND WRITER/ARTIST

HOLLAND IS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER AND CARTOONIST IN WILMINGTON, NC. WHEN NOT COMPLETING A PROJECT, SHE CONTEMPLATES ART'S NAVEL ON INSTAGRAM @THEGORGONTRANSPLANT"

P. 20 **PRE-COVID COMICS/IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR EPIPHANIES**

HENRY EUDY WRITER/ARTIST



P. 22 **MOONEY'S MODULE**

GERRY MOONEY WRITER/ARTIST

MOONEY IS A NEW YORK COMMERCIAL ARTIST AND ILLUSTRATOR WHO HAS RETIRED TO CLAREMORE, OK, WITH HIS WIFE, PLAYWRIGHT VICKI LYNN MOONEY. GERRY CREATED GOO AND ROO IN 2005 IN AN UNSOLD BID FOR SYNDICATION. HE CONTINUES TO WORK ON PERSONAL PROJECTS AND THE OCCASIONAL FREELANCE WORK. CONTACT HIM AT GERRY@MOONEYART.COM.



P. 24 **'TOONS BY STEVE SMITH**

STEVE SMITH WRITER/ARTIST

SMITH IS A GREAT CARTOONIST AND A HELLUVA FUNNY GUY.



P. 26 **HYMNS OF PLAGUE**

SARAH ALLEN REED WRITER/ARTIST

BORN WITH A DECIDEDLY DIFFERENT NAME AND ASSIGNED GENDER NEAR SAINT LOUIS, MO, REED PICKED UP A PEN AT THE AGE OF EIGHT AND DREW HER FIRST COMIC BOOK. HER WORK DEALS WITH LOSS, TRANS AND QUEER ISSUES, HER OWN BATTLES WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND HOMELESSNESS, AND THE PSYCHOLOGY OF TRAUMA AND RELIGION. SHE CURRENTLY RESIDES SOMEWHERE IN COLORADO; ALTHOUGH, AS WITH EVERYTHING ELSE IN LIFE, THIS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VIST HER AT SARAHALLENREED.COM

MEANWHILE AT...



IN-STORE: NEW COMICS, GRAPHIC NOVELS, MANGA, HUGE STOCK OF BACK ISSUES INCLUDING SILVER & GOLDEN AGE COMICS. PLUS STATUES & OUR OWN LINE OF COMIC-COLLECTING SUPPLIES.

WE ALSO RUN CHARLOTTE'S ORIGINAL COMIC-BOOK CONVENTION, THE....

HEROES CONVENTION

SINCE 1982

JUNE 19-21, 2020

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER

COMIC BOOKS * ARTIST ALLEY * TICKETS ON SALE NOW! 18 & UNDER FREE

f t i HEROESONLINE.COM

417 PECAN AVENUE * CHARLOTTE NC 28204

704-375-7462